

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH June 28, 2011

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

The Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District School Committee held a meeting on this date at 6:00 p.m. in the Exeter-West Greenwich Jr. – Sr. High School Library. Members present were Gregory Coutcher, Chairperson; Mark Rafanelli; Theresa Donovan, Paul McFadden, and Claudine Pande. Teri Maia-Cicero, Vice Chairperson and Valerie Zuercher, Clerk were absent. Superintendent Thomas J. Geismar, Director of Administration Robert V. Ross, and Director of Special Services Carmella Farrar were present.

ORDER – Chair Coutcher called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all and Member Rafanelli read the District Mission Statement.

Open Forum – None

Recognitions/Achievements – Teacher of the Year 2012 – Gregg Charest – Chair Coutcher advised that this item would be set aside until Mr. Charest arrives.

ROUTINE ITEMS – CONSENT AGENDA- Superintendent Geismar gave

an overview of the Consent Agenda.

Member Donovan moved to remove items A. and D. from the consent agenda for the purpose that she will abstain from voting to approve the Minutes because she was absent from the June 15 meeting, and to discuss the Home School Approvals.

Member Donovan made a motion to accept the consent agenda with the exception of items A. and D; seconded by Member Rafanelli; and voted 5 – 0 in favor.

The following items were approved:

A. Item Pulled

B. Personnel Items

1. Appointments – (As Recommended by the Superintendent)

a. Maxwell Fish as 1.0 FTE Desktop Computer Support Technician, Annual Salary \$ 31,886, effective on or about June 29, 2011

2. Leaves of Absence – (As Recommended by the Superintendent)

a. Letter from Michelle Livsey requesting a one-year leave of absence from her position as 1.0 FTE ELA/Social Studies Teacher at the Jr. High School for the purpose of pursuing work as a Teacher Quality Fellow – Induction Coach at the Rhode Island Department of Education for the 2011 – 2012 school year

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3. Resignations – (As Recommended by the Superintendent, with Regret)

a. Letter of Resignation from Louise Tarbox from her position as 1.0 FTE Title I Reading Teacher at Metcalf School, for the purpose of Retirement, effective June 24, 2011

4. Grievances

5. Non-Renewals

6. Recalls – (As Recommended by the Superintendent)

a. Please see attached June 28, 2011 Additional List

7. Sabbaticals

C. Bills – In the amount of \$ 133,844.04

D. Item Pulled

End Consent Agenda

Special Education Director Carmella Farrar left the meeting at this time, (6:07 p.m.).

Correspondence – (1) West Warwick School Committee Resolution (Layoff Notice) passed May 24, 2011

NEW BUSINESS – Sr. High School History Textbook Review/Adoption – In support of History Department Chair Louise Oliveira's recommendation, Dr. Geismar recommended the School Committee approve adoption of the Prentice-Hall's United States History 2010 textbook. Member Pande stated that she was confused about the

memo explaining how many textbooks would be ordered and what grade levels would receive the new textbooks. She would like all students to have a new book and follow the same curriculum. Member Pande asked what the fiscal impact would be if the district were to purchase all the books at once rather than phasing in the replacement text for U.S. History. Dr. Geismar said he would seek clarification and address Member Pande's concerns at the next meeting.

Mrs. Farrar returned to the meeting at this time, (6:09 p.m.).

Chair Coutcher advised that this item would continue to the next meeting agenda. Member McFadden will take the textbook home to review and then return it to the administration office.

Capital Asset Protection Plan Approval – Director of Administration Robert Ross referenced his CAPP (Capital Asset Protection Plan) Report and gave an overview of the regulations and processes around the management of District Assets. The Capital Reserve Fund is used to fund various projects. Each eligible project can be entitled to a percentage of total cost reimbursement from the state. The reimbursement rate is subject to change and funding availability. Mr. Ross said he anticipates 2011 reimbursements totaling approximately \$13,000. The CAPP Initial Notice of Projects for 2012 will be submitted

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within the next couple of days. The water tank and kitchen renovations are active projects on that list. The dollar values shown represent estimates and are not requirements. It is to notify the state of what projects the district wishes to do and if done expects to receive reimbursement for. However, the District is under no obligation to do these projects. Mr. Ross answered Member Donovan's inquiries regarding the ADA Egress & Parking project.

Chair Coutcher reverted to agenda item, IV. A. Teacher of the Year 2012.

Recognitions/Achievements – Teacher of the Year 2012 – Gregg Charest – Superintendent Geismar recognized Jr. – Sr. High School music teacher Gregg Charest as the 2012 Exeter-West Greenwich Teacher of the Year. He praised Mr. Charest for his talent and his ability to inspire and teach his music/band students. Dr. Geismar stated that there could not be a better choice for Teacher of the Year 2012. Mr. Charest is a tremendous asset to the school community. On behalf of the School Committee, Chair Coutcher presented Mr. Charest with a School Committee Apple Recognition Award and offered congratulations. Mr. Charest expressed gratitude and said he likes his job at EWG. He grew up in a community similar to EWG where people roll up their sleeves to help and he likes that. Students and parents make it easy for him to do his job. Member Donovan

expressed thankfulness to Mr. Charest and stated that he is a fabulous musician and mentor to many but first and foremost, he is a teacher. He makes an incredible difference and changes the lives for his students. This is a tremendous award for a tremendous person.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Capital Project Update – Dr. Geismar reported the equipment is on site and the shovel is in the ground to begin the water system project at Metcalf School.

Reports/Comments – Chair Coutcher reverted to the items pulled from the consent agenda by Member Donovan.

Member McFadden moved to accept the regular meeting minutes of June 15, 2011; seconded by Member Rafanelli; and voted 4 – 0 – 1 in favor. Member Donovan abstained. The motion passed.

In response to Member Donovan's inquiry, Dr. Geismar gave a general overview of the process of home instruction and state and school district requirements of parents who home-school.

Member Donovan moved to approve the home school requests; seconded by Member Pande; and voted 5 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

The following [consent agenda] items were approved:

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A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Minutes of June 15, 2011

E. Home School Approvals

- 1. BUCKLEY – grade 10, 10, 10, and 8**
- 2. BURGESS – grades 10, 7, and 2**
- 3. SEPE – grades 12 and 9**
- 4. FONTAINE – grades 5 and 2**
- 5. NEGRI – grades 8, 6, and 4**

Important Dates and Meetings – Tuesday, July 19, 2011 – School Committee Meeting-(optional or eliminate)

EXECUTIVE SESSION – RIGL 42-46-4 and RIGL 42-46-5 – Member Donovan moved to go into Executive Session at 6:40 p.m. in accordance with 42-46-5 (2) – CBA – (C-94/Teachers' Association)-Negotiation Discussion and/or Pending Litigation; seconded by Member Rafanelli; and voted as follows:

Gregory Coutcher Yes

Mark Rafanelli Yes

Theresa Donovan Yes

Paul McFadden Yes

Claudine Pande Yes

Meeting recessed to Executive Session at 6:40 p.m.

Member Rafanelli moved to reconvene to Open Session. Member Donovan seconded the motion. Voted 5 – 0 in favor.

Meeting reconvened to Open Session at 7:12 p.m.

There were no votes taken during Executive Session.

Adjournment – Member Rafanelli moved to adjourn at 7:12 p.m.; seconded by Member Pande; and voted 5 – 0 in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

ROBIN CERIO

CLERK